Greenfield Garden Club Newsletter

June 2018 **Vol. 26, No. 5**

June Field Trip: Double-Header to Connecticut

Save Saturday, June 16th for a full day of pleasures south of the border! First stop is Elizabeth Park in West Hartford. The rose garden is the first municipal rose garden in the United States and the third largest rose garden in the country today. Theodore Wirth began the design in September of 1903, and it opened in June 1904. The rose garden began with about 190 varieties of roses, and this eventually grew to almost 1,000 by the 1950s. The original main garden, the "square," is an acre in size and has 132 rose beds. The North and South gardens, which are semi-circular sections, were added later to make up a total of 2.5 acres of roses, 475 beds, and the eight grass pathways. There are over 15,000 rose bushes and 800 varieties of old and new roses in the garden. Featured are hybrid tea, climbers, hybrid perpetual, and floribunda, shrub, and pillar roses, among others. Ramblers grow on arches that radiate from the "gazebo," or Rustic Summer House, which is covered in Virginia creeper. We will lunch onsite, and then head north to Granby, Ct to O'Brien's Nursery, whose extensive display gardens feature over 1,600 hosta varieties, as well as other unusual shade plants, from Asarums to Arisaemas, with dwarf conifers and over 100 varieties of Japanese Maples. No admission fees at either location (FYI - O'Briens does not take credit cards). Carpool from Cherry Rum Plaza, with the time emailed to those who RSVP. The group will decide whether to eat at Elizabeth Park or to pack a picnic lunch. Please contact Laura if you are interested in joining us. Leave a message at 774-4594, or email: greenfieldgardenclub@yahoo.com.

June President's Report

It's a wonderful early June morning – are you gardening today? Time to get the gardens planted if you have not started already – like me! I've been really enjoying the monthly field trips, although the trip to see the lilacs last month was rained out. This month's trip to Elizabeth Park and O'Brien's Nursery should be fantastic. Check out the hyperlinks in the main article to go to their websites for more detailed information. Since it is the official rose weekend, there will be other events, including a tulip bulb sale and the Bonsai Society Show. It may be crowded, so we plan to leave early to get parking on-site. // Please know that the steering committee loves the club, but we are getting burned out. Someone will need to step forward to be President next year, and Treasurer as well. I cannot continue, so we need to start the search early. (I also maintain the website, our Facebook page, and write the newsletter. I am not sure how Linda did the latter for so many years!) Please let the steering committee know if you are interested. Long-time members still meet with the steering committee to provide guidance, so you will not be left alone! Please consider helping, or the club may not continue past January. Thanks for your consideration!

Rose Arbor a-bloom

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, June 15, 5:30 pm - Steering ctte, 40 High St, Greenfield

Saturday, June 16, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm: Field Trip to CT

June 22-24: Newport Flower Show with Marth Stewart and others

June 30 and July 1, 10-3: 17th Annual Westminster Garden Tour (VT) go to: www.westminstercares.org for tickets.

Support Your Garden Club!

Gardening Help Needed in Turners Falls

Beginning in 2016, volunteers – including the horticulture class from Franklin Tech – contributed hundreds of hours towards renovating and maintaining a number of planters on Avenue A that were in need of attention. During that time period, community members also contributed money that went directly towards buying over 650 perennials and bulbs!

We are presently looking for additional volunteers and donations for buying more plants. If you are a gardener – or if want to garden – and are able to volunteer your time, please contact the Planter Coordinator, Owen Wormser, at 413-374-3438 or by email at: owen@localharmony.org. Please pass this along to anyone who might be interested, and thanks in advance!

Students hard at work refreshing a planter last year.

This year for the 15th time, The Lavender Festival is hosted during the last full weekend of June.

Rain or Shine
Saturday and Sunday
June 23 and 24, 2018
From 10am until 4pm each day

Local Artisans and Crafters will be here with handmade work, the doves will be released, guests will wander the Labyrinth, visit the antique cemetery, the apple orchard, shop the vendor tents and watch or participate in demonstrations.

Come for an hour or spend the day.
Relax, Shop and Wander

Officers 2018:

President:
Laura Schlaikjer 774-4594
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Vice President:
Marsha Stone 773-0201
mds41@comcast.net

Treasurer:
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Recording Secretary:
Linda Smith 772-0675
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Corresponding Secretary:
Deborah Loomer 863-9421
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Five Signs You should Join a Garden Club

(*from Southern Living*)

You have a green thumb.

If you are already a seasoned gardener, you are sure to find your niche in your local garden club. Garden club leadership will enlist your help hosting events and teaching gardening tutorials in no time.

You don't have a green thumb.

Gardening novices are welcome too! Garden clubs are all about appreciating gardens, so the only prerequisite is the desire to enjoy garden spaces in all their shapes and sizes. If you love gardens and want to learn more, you should start making inquiries and visit a meeting of your local garden club.

You love to learn about gardening.

You may join your local garden club because you enjoy gardens, but you will be astonished at how much you learn when you attend events and get to know fellow garden club members. There is a vast accumulation of knowledge in garden clubs passed down from members through the years, and you're sure to learn something new, whether it's how to change the color of your hydrangeas or the best ways to fend off garden pests.

You care about conservation.

In recent years, garden clubs have helped to continue the conversation of environmental conservation. They offer educational programs, plan projects, and raise awareness about protecting the environment, including spearheading programs to combat the decline of pollinators and other significant issues that affect our gardens and our world.

You want to talk gardens with other garden-minded people.

Gardens bring people together. Join up, and you'll have a whole club of new friends bound together by a love of gardens, gardening, and people who love gardening. In garden clubs, no matter what your gardening interests may be—from peonies to pollinators—you'll find spaces to explore them and people to share them with. And don't forget the flower shows! They're the highlights of every season.

Please support your garden club by participating and coming to events: We need you!!!

Extravaganza Break-down:

Expenses: $100 for the booth space; $186.00 for Spatcher Farm plants; $603.25 for Five Acre Farm plants; $35.32 for printing and laminating signs.

Income: $536.53 profit after expenses.

Despite the presence of close to 75 crafters on May 19th, the chance of rain may have affected foot traffic. We did manage to sell a goodly number of plants, but most were purchased. Donated plants were way down. Many others had plants sales that day. Laura and Deb spent several hours choosing plants to sell, and Laura took unsold plants to work to sell. There is a lot of work involved with this event – and this year's profit is very disappointing. Your Steering committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the future of the sale. We might make just as much with a Go Fund Me page with much less work – but less fun and camaraderie. Your thoughts?

O'Brien's Hosta display bed

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of June 1, 2018 .....$4, 825.65

Income $1,215.16
Interest, Dues, Extravaganza

Expenses $1074.57
Extravaganza

All financial matters and membership dues should be directed to the club Treasurer:

Jean Wall

413-773-9069

40 High Street

Greenfield MA 01301

Greenfield Garden Club
PO Box 309
Greenfield MA 01302-0309

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

These vendors have agreed to provide the listed discounts for members who show their membership card when making a purchase. We appreciate their support! Please respect their offers by remembering these generous discounts are for club members only and only when your card is presented.

Backyard Birds – 15 Strong Ave., Northampton
10% off regularly prices items except thistle birdseed

Baystate Perennial Farm
36 State Road (Route 5/10), Whately
10% off regular priced plants

Chapley Gardens
397 Greenfield Road (Route 5/10), Deerfield
10% off regular priced plants and pond supplies

Five Acre Farm – 110 Hinsdale Rd., Northfield
10% off regular priced plants

Greenfield Farmers' Cooperative (Agway)
269 High Street, Greenfield
10% anything garden related

Silver Garden Daylilies – 23 Picket Lane, Greenfield
10% off daylilies

LaSalle Florists
23 LaSalle Drive (Route 5/10), Whately
10% off regular priced plants

O'Brien Nurserymen – 40 Wells Road, Granby, CT
10% off plants

Sugarloaf Nursery – 25 Amherst Road, Sunderland
10% off regular priced plants

Warm Colors Apiary
2 South Mill River Road, South Deerfield
10% off

Wilder Hill Gardens
351 South Shirkshire Road, Conway
10% off plants and consultations